(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the completion of project according to the revised schedule to avoid further cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Mechanical Coal Handling Project at Paradip Port is likely to be completed by December, 1999 as against the original target of 28th September, 1998.

(c) The reasons for delay are:

(i) Delay in obtaining Railway Approval for Train Unloading system and Rail Layout.

(ii) Litigation in the case.

(iii) Delay due to rebidding of a package because of withdrawal of bid validity by the successful bidder during extended bid validity period.

(d) The revised cost of the project is being worked out by the Port.

(e) The Government has constituted a High Level Steering Committee to monitor the progress of the project. The monitoring of projects at Port and Ministry level has also been strengthened.

[English]

Smooth Supply of Petrol

1841. KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that IOC, BPC and HPC are supplying petrol smoothly to their dealers from its fixed locations but IBP Co. Ltd. are unable to make smooth supplies;;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the persons responsible for the same;

(c) whether Oil Coordination Committee is not taking any action for rectifying the position;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to streamline the supplies by IBP Co. Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) IBP Co. is making smooth supplies of petrol to its dealers from the locations where it has its own supply points. At other points, hospitality arrangement with other oil majors exists, which is in line with normal Industry practice. However during June, 1997, supplies of petrol to certain parts of Northern region were affected due to stoppaged of tankers at Kandla, adverse rail/ road conditions due to bad weather, shut down of BPC refinery and FCCU shut down at Vizag, Cochin and Koyali.

[Translation]

Bridges on NH - 12

1842. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the small bridge or construct a new bridge on river Warna near Bareilly on National Highway No. 12;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) The reconstruction of new bridge on river Warna is proposed to be included in 9th Five Year Plan subject to the inter-se-priority and overall availability of fund.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Four Lane from Monor to Talesari

1843. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for extension of four lane from Monor to Talesari Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway has been received by the Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for four-laning of the road portion in question of National Highway No. 8 in the Maharashtra State. The work of the preparation of detailed project report and other preliminaries of the project is presently in progress.

[Translation]

Educational Agreements

1844. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi University has entered into educational agreements with some countries;